



11-14-02

1756

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	: John E. Bjorkholm et al	Docket No.	: IL-10660
Serial No.	: 09/669,958	Art Unit	: 1756
Filed	: September 26, 2000	Examiner	C. Young
For	: Compensation of Flare-Induced CD Changes In Photolithography		

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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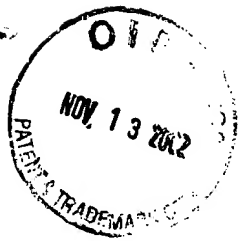
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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 26, 2001, kindly consider the following:

The 35 USC 103 Rejection

Claim 1-32 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Tzu et al "in combination with one of ordinary skill in the requisite art's standard ability."

Claim 1 is directed to "compensating for flare-induced critical dimension changes in photolithography", and applicants are unable to find any teaching in this reference relative to "flare" let alone the operational steps set forth in Claim 1, for example of "compensating for flare-induced critical dimension changes." Similar comments apply to dependent claims of Claim 1. Claims 14 & 15 are directed to "extreme ultraviolet lithography" and "an extreme ultraviolet cameras", and "for eliminating unwanted critical dimension changes" therein, or an improvement comprising "compensating for flare-induced critical dimension changes." In addition to the fact that there is found no reference to "flare" in Tzu et al, there is also no reference therein to "an extreme ultraviolet" lithography or let alone and teaching or suggestion of "eliminating" or "compensating for flare-induced critical dimension changes". Similar comments apply to the dependent claims of Claim 14.

It has thus been shown that Tzu et al totally fails to teach or suggest the principle features of Claims 1, 14 and 15. Now with no support from the reference Tzu et al, the Examiner is called upon to explain how "one of ordinary skill in the requisite art's standard ability" would obtain these teaches but for hindsight based on Applicants' disclosure.

It is submitted that the rejection as applied against Claims 1-32 is clearly improper and finds no support from either Tzu et al or "one of ordinary skill". Thus, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing comments, it is believed that the rejection has been overcome, and that this application is in condition for allowance based on Claims 1-32.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 11-11-02

L.E. Carnahan

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